

**IMPLICATIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS' PERCEPTIONS REGARDING
THE USE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

by

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Title**IMPLICATIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS' PERCEPTIONS REGARDING
THE USE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT****Summary**

Genetically modified (GM) crops gained attention in southern Africa as countries are struggling with food insecurity and poverty to achieve sustainable development. The controversy around GM crops have provoked heated debates. GM crops are often perceived as a global risk to human health and the environment. The research question is what are the perceptions of environmental educators regarding the use of GM crops toward sustainable development. In the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development environmental educators will need to be key role players in addressing crucial issues such as GM crops. Their perceptions hold many implications for educational programmes. Environmental educators interviewed perceive GM crops as a serious issue. As mediators in a multidisciplinary setting between science and society, environmental educators can play a functional role. Open processes that require greater participation, criticality and reflexivity need to be facilitated in a complex biophysical and social context in southern Africa.

Key terms

Genetically modified crops; sustainable development; poverty; food security; southern Africa; perceptions; risk; environmental education; socially constructed knowledge; scientific ethic

Declaration

I declare that **IMPLICATIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS PERCEPTIONS REGARDING THE USE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT** is my own work and that all sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

Mr S J le Roux

DATE

CONTENT	PAGE NUMBER
TITLE PAGE	i
SUMMARY AND KEY TERMS	ii
DECLARATION	iv
 CHAPTER 1: Overview and rationale of study	
1.1 Introduction and rationale	1
1.2 Problem statement and research questions	3
1.3 Aim of the research	4
1.4 Theoretical perspectives	4
1.5 Scope of the study and definition of terms	5
1.6 Overview of research design and methods	8
1.7 Chapter divisions	8
 CHAPTER 2: GM crops as means to sustainable development – controversy and perceptions	
2.1 Overview	9
2.2 The context	9
2.2.1 The global challenge – sustainable development	10
2.2.2 History of the green revolution	11
2.2.3 The challenging environmental and social context in southern Africa	12
2.2.4 Food insecurity and poverty	14
2.3 Addressing food insecurity through modern technology	16
2.3.1 GM crops as part of biotechnology	16
2.3.2 Benefits of GM crops	19
2.3.3 Possible risks – threats to the environment and human health	20
2.3.4 Social, ethical and political issues complexity of GM crops	21
2.3.5 GM crops as a global issue	23
2.4 Public perceptions of contemporary risks	24
2.4.1 Perceptions of GM crops	25
2.4.2 Some indicators of the perceptions of GM crops	27
2.4.2.1 Knowledge and unawareness	27
2.4.2.2 Dominant knowledge system	28

2.4.2.3 Ethics, values, normative belief systems and culture	30
2.4.2.4 Trust	32
2.4.2.5 Uncertainty	32
2.4.3 Linkage between perception indicators	34
2.5 The response of environmental education to the GM crops issue towards sustainable development	35
2.5.1 Environmental educators' perceptions	35
2.5.2 Implications of environmental educators' perceptions on the use of GM crops	36
2.5.3 Practical suggestions for the environmental educator	38
2.6 Conclusion	39

CHAPTER 3: Research design

3.1 Introduction	41
3.2 Research question and sub questions	41
3.3 Research method	42
3.3.1 Structured open-ended interviews	42
3.3.2 Validity and reliability	43
3.3.3 Interview questions	44
3.3.4 Sampling	45
3.3.5 Ethical measures	46
3.4 Data processing and analysis	47
3.5 Conclusion	48

CHAPTER 4: Research findings

4.1 Introduction	49
4.2 GM crops, sustainable development and environmental educators	49
4.2.1 The context of environmental educators interviewed	49
4.2.2 Environmental educators' understanding of GM crops	50
4.2.3 Environmental educators' view on sustainable development	50
4.3 General themes	51
4.3.1 GM crops a serious issue in terms of food security	51
4.3.2 Needs	52
4.3.3 Ignorance and lack of information	52

4.3.4	Uncertainty	53
4.3.5	Information sources	54
4.3.6	Trust in rational frameworks	54
4.3.7	Authorities' bias	54
4.3.8	Authorities responsibility	55
4.4	Unique themes	55
4.4.1	Language and terminology	56
4.4.2	Knowledge systems	56
4.4.3	Societal structure change in southern Africa	56
4.4.4	Interest change	56
4.5	Conclusion	57

CHAPTER 5: Discussion and Conclusions

5.1	Introduction	58
5.2	Relation between findings and issues in the literature	58
5.2.1	The context	59
5.2.2	Expected findings	60
5.2.3	Link between perception indicators	61
5.3	Limitations and unexpected findings	63
5.3.1	Limitations of this study	64
5.3.2	Unexpected findings	66
5.4	Answering the sub questions	67
5.4.1	What do environmental educators know about GM crops?	67
5.4.2	What is environmental educators' opinion on the use of GM crops towards sustainable development?	69
5.4.3	How do environmental educators view GM crops in relation to other biotechnologies?	69
5.4.4	Do environmental educators view GM crops as a pressing issue in sustainable development?	70
5.4.5	How do environmental educators' perceptions compare to other public perception surveys?	70
5.5	Perceptions of environmental educators of GM crops	71
5.6	Implications of environmental educators' perceptions	72
5.7	Recommendations for future research	74

5.8	Conclusion	75
	REFERENCES	77
	APPENDIX A	84